

Amendments to the Claims:

Please cancel claims 1 - 11 without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter thereof and rewrite claims 12, 13 and 14 in independent form as follows.

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (canceled)
2. (canceled)
3. (canceled)
4. (canceled)
5. (canceled)
6. (canceled)
7. (canceled)
8. (canceled)
9. (canceled)
10. (canceled)
11. (canceled)

12. (currently amended) An ultrasound probe ~~according to claim 1,~~  
comprising:

a transducer unit including a plurality of transducers for transmitting and receiving an ultrasound respectively located in correspondence with adjacent positions of transmission and reception; and

a flexible circuit board of at least one layer located in correspondence with said positions of transmission and reception, in which signal lines for supplying a transmission signal and for extracting a reception signal to/from said positions are installed;

wherein the flexible circuit board includes a first part which extends from the transducer unit in a longitudinal direction of the plurality of transducers and a second part which is connected to the first part and extends at predetermined angle with respect to the longitudinal direction extension of the first part so as to form a bend at the predetermined angle with respect to the first part;

wherein the flexible circuit board has slits dividing signal lines of the flexible circuit board into a plurality of sections of the flexible circuit board, and each section of the flexible circuit board which is divided by at least one of the slits of the flexible circuit board is separately spirally wound; and

wherein a length of the portions of the first part in the longitudinal direction gradually decrease as the portion becomes closer to an inner side of the bend.

13. (currently amended) An ultrasound probe ~~according to claim 11,~~  
comprising:

a transducer unit including a plurality of transducers for transmitting and receiving an ultrasound; and

a flexible circuit board of at least one layer being connected with each of said transducers, in which signal lines for supplying a transmission signal and for extracting a reception signal to/from said plurality of transducers are installed;

wherein the flexible circuit board includes a first part which extends from the transducer unit in a longitudinal direction of the plurality of transducers and a second

part which is connected to the first part and extends at predetermined angle with respect to the longitudinal direction extension of the first part so as to form a bend at the predetermined angle with respect to the first part;

wherein the flexible circuit board has slits dividing signal lines of the flexible circuit board into a plurality of sections, and each section of the flexible circuit board which is divided by at least one of the slits of the flexible circuit board is separately spirally wound; and

wherein a length of the portions of the first part in the longitudinal direction gradually decrease as the portion becomes closer to an inner side of the bend.

14. (currently amended) An ultrasound probe ~~according to claim 11,~~  
comprising:

a transducer unit including a plurality of transducers for transmitting and receiving an ultrasound; and

a flexible circuit board of at least one layer being connected with each of said transducers, in which signal lines for supplying a transmission signal and for extracting a reception signal to/from said plurality of transducers are installed;

wherein the flexible circuit board includes a first part which extends from the transducer unit in a longitudinal direction of the plurality of transducers and a second part which is connected to the first part and extends at predetermined angle with respect to the longitudinal direction extension of the first part so as to form a bend at the predetermined angle with respect to the first part;

wherein the flexible circuit board has slits dividing signal lines of the flexible circuit board into a plurality of sections, and each section of the flexible circuit board

which is divided by at least one of the slits of the flexible circuit board is separately spirally wound; and

wherein a member is provided around each spirally wound section of the flexible circuit board.